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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

Comment On: EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001

Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

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Anonymous public comment

Submitter Information

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General Comment

Dirty deserted bays and rivers affect everyone. As citizens of earth, we have an inherent right to clean drinking water, safe seafood and scenic places.

The rivers and bays are natural habitats for seafood and clean water. Forests are natural habitats for game and naturally clean our air and water. Conversely, crops and livestock provide us with food that wouldn't naturally occur in our ecosystems on the large scale that they do on farms. The negative impacts these farms have on watersheds are a direct result of our desire for livestock and crops. Therefore, we the consumers and growers of farmed meat and produce should be willing to pay the price to clean up the resulting byproducts.

The same applies to urban development. We all want our piece of land, but we must be willing to take responsibility for the contamination we introduce into the storm water as it runs off our property.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Citizens must realize that it is far more inexpensive to prevent nutrient and sediment pollution entering the water than to clean up the water. Unfortunately "tragedy of the commons" is occurring in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and citizens need a push to reverse the trend. The WIP's must hold each stakeholder accountable with clearly defined and specific actions to be implemented with deadlines and enforcements. If Virginia does not create WIPs that push all stakeholders to take responsibility for the effect of their actions on the watershed, then I support the EPA stepping in to ensure success.